



We need Pigeon Pioneers



We want to understand pigeon lung

Pigeon lung is usually mild and can be improved by masks.
In a few fanciers this can become severe and cause scarring of the lungs.

*We want to discover **why** some people develop pigeon lung but others do not!*

How will we do this?

- Pigeon fanciers use their knowledge of pigeon genetics to breed **winning pigeons**.
- We will use our knowledge of human genetics to investigate why some pigeon fanciers get pigeon lung.
- We will compare genetic differences between pigeon fanciers **with** and **without** pigeon lung.
- We will also study the differences in blood tests that tell us how the body responds to the dust in pigeon lofts.



How can you help? We need volunteers who keep pigeons to join our study:

British Pigeon Fanciers Genetics of ILD (BPF GILD study)

What will it involve? This will take 30 minutes for:

- i) questions about how long you have kept pigeons and your general health
- ii) simple breathing tests
- iii) a small blood sample.

We will also write to you afterwards to update us about any changes in your breathing.

This research would not be possible without the help of people like yourself and we are incredibly grateful for your generosity.